

BLACKSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

News Release

DATE: March 31, 2005

CONTACT: Lt. B.E. Bradbery 961-1810

SUBJECT: Police Arrest Texas Holdem Players

Blacksburg Police have concluded their investigation into last weeks poker game and arrest warrants have been issued for 26 people between the ages of 18 and 25.

Through an anonymous tip, police learned of a Texas Holdem poker game being used as a profitable venture in Terrace View Apartments. Police used an undercover officer to gather information and executed a Search Warrant at the apartment at midnight on March 25, 2005. During the service of that warrant police seized over 2,000.00 in cash, poker chips, two poker tables, two computers, and playing cards.

Police have arrested Edwin H. Park, age 19, of Blacksburg on 1 Felony count of Conducting or Operating an Illegal Gambling Operation. He is free on \$5,000.00 Bond.

Hamze M. Farhat age 21, of Blacksburg, has been arrested on a single Class 1 Misdemeanor count of Allowing an Illegal Gambling Operation to Operate in his Residence.

Haieu T. Pham age 22, Terece K. Chan age 20, Charles M. Kim age 20, Christopher R. Tyler age 20, Quang T. Nguyen age 19, Jung H. Chang age 18, Christina S. Ko age 19, Young M. Kim age 20 and In H. Choi age 19, all of Blacksburg, have been charged with the Class 1 Misdemeanor of Aiding and Abetting an Illegal Gambling Operation.

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Because the game was illegal, playing was also illegal. The following people have been charged with the Class 3 Misdemeanor of Participating in an Illegal Gambling Operation.

1. Matthew W. Roberts, age 21 of Blacksburg
2. Jonathan H. Wills, age 19 of Blacksburg
3. Brent R. Sullivan, age 19 of Blacksburg
4. Heather Lee, age 21 of Blacksburg
5. Quang M. Nguyen, age 20 of Blacksburg
6. Randy T. Chu, age 21 of Blacksburg
7. Kyle S. Urda, age 19 of Blacksburg
8. Omar M.E.A. Alnaqbi, age 21 of Blacksburg
9. Brian S. Powell, age 23 of Blacksburg
10. Andrew J. Smith, age 19 of Blacksburg
11. Jaehyon Kim, age 21 of Blacksburg
12. Joseph J. Osborne, age 25 of Blacksburg
13. Kevin Y. Woo, age 21 of Blacksburg
14. Fitsum A. Yohannes, age 24 of Blacksburg

Arraignment date for the Felony and Class 1 Misdemeanor charges is set for April 21, 2005. The trial date for those charged with participating in the game is set for May 5, 2005. Those arrested on Misdemeanor charges are expected to be released on their own recognizance.

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